Ø 001

MAY 1 9 2005



# Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery

## Intellectual Property Law

1::01 K. Street, NW, Suite 401L Washington, D.C. 20006 Phone: (202) 419-7000 Fax: (202) 419-7007

## TELECOPIER COVER SHEET

Client/Matter Nos: 1410/77070

Date: May 19, 2005

The transmission that follows totals <u>3</u> pages, <u>including</u> this cover sheet. Please deliver immediately to the following:

Examiner: L. Tran

Fax: (703) 872-9306

Art Unit: 1761

Re:

U.S. Application No. 10/774,692

HOWARD, ET AL.

This transmission is being sent by <u>ramon r. hoch</u>, please call (202-419-7000) if there is a problem with this transmission.

#### **COMMENTS:**

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMULE: I hereby certify that these papers (1) RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND ELECTION (two pages), are being transmitted via facsimile to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this day of May 19, 2005.

Ramon R. Hoch

####### # #\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

This transmission with its attachments is intended for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed, and may contain information that is **PRIVILEGED & CONFIDENTIAL**. If you are <u>not</u> the intended recipient and have received this transmission in error, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is prohibited. Please notify the operator <u>immediately</u> by telephone and mail the original telecopier message back to us. We will reimburse your first-class mail cost.

## RECEIVED **CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

MAY 1 9 2005

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	) Confirmation No.: 7393
HOWARD, ET AL.	) Attny. Dkt.: 1410/77070
Serial No.: 10/774,692	) Group Art Unit: 1761
Filed: February 10, 2004	) Examiner: L. Tran
For: FREEZER-STABLE TOASTED BREAD SLICES	) ) )

Mail Stop Amendment U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Commissioner for Paten:s P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-L450

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND ELECTION

Sir:

Responsive to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office communication dated April 21, 2005, Applicants elect Group II, which currently encompasses process claims 11-33, with traverse.

Reconsideration of the restriction requirement is requested. Regarding the another and materially different process suggested in the Office communication for making the product as claimed via "compressing by hand," attention is directed to page 6, lines 15-16 of the instant specification.

U.S.S.N. 10/774,692 Rest. Req't. dated April 21, 2005 Election of May 19, 2005

Atty. Dkt. No. 1410/77070

Therefore, Applicants request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn, and that the claims encompassed by Group I be rejoined and examined together with those of elected Group II.

2

In view of the above, issuance of an Office Action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

Date: May 19, 2005

By:

γamore γa 7th σεδι

Ramon R. Hoch Reg. No. 34,108

120 South LaSalle Streat Suite 1600 Chicago, Illinois 60603-3406 Telephone: (312) 577-7)00 Facsimile: (312) 577-7007